



Michael A. Finney is the President and CEO of Ann Arbor SPARK (SPARK).

SPARK is a public-private partnership whose mission is to advance innovation-based economic development in the greater Ann Arbor region. SPARK recently merged with the Washtenaw Development Council to form one integrated flagship economic development group to assist businesses at every stage, from those that are established to those working to successfully commercialize innovations.

SPARK represents all communities in the Washtenaw County region of Michigan and collaborates with business, government, academic, and not-for-profit partners.

Prior to taking the helm at Ann Arbor SPARK, Michael served as president and CEO of Greater Rochester Enterprise, Rochester, New York; he also served as Vice President for the Michigan Economic Development Corporation; Senior Vice President and General Manager, Thomson Saginaw; and as Assistant City Manager, Saginaw, Michigan.

Michael currently serves on the University of Michigan, Office of Technology Transfer National Advisory Council and the Life Sciences Institute National Advisory Council, Board of Directors for the State Science and Technology Institute and the Michigan Venture Capital Association. Michael was appointed the 2005 Minett Distinguished Professor at Rochester Institute of Technology

Michael holds a Master of Arts from Central Michigan University and a Bachelor of Business Administration from Saginaw Valley State University.